

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 4, line 8:

A1 Figs. 4A-4C show various exemplary embodiments of promotional devices according to the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 13, with the following paragraph:

A2 For example, a ticket voucher (e.g., ticket 120 of Fig. 1 or ticket 400 of Fig. 4A) printed by or for use with a gaming machine may have a bar code thereon which encodes a credit amount and identifies a specific gaming application or set of gaming applications for which the credit may be redeemed. Alternatively, the smart card described above (an example 402 of which is shown in Fig. 4B) could have similar game-specific credit information stored directly on the smart card or have information on the smart card which points to the game-specific credit information on some remote storage device, e.g., servers 245 and 250 of Fig. 2. According to specific embodiments in which smart cards are used to distribute game-specific credits, the provider of the credits has the option of disabling certain system features for play associated with the game-specific credits. That is, for example, it might be desirable to disable player tracking functions (in which a player accrues points for playing games) when the game-specific credits are redeemed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 24, with the following paragraph:

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A3  
As yet another alternative, the game-specific credit information may be magnetically encoded in the magnetic strip of a promotional card (e.g., card 404 of Fig. 4C) which may be read by the gaming machine's card reader. According to a specific embodiment of the invention, such promotional cards include graphical elements on the cards which are specific to the game or games being promoted. These graphical elements may, for example, correspond to the graphical elements associated with the promoted game and are designed to generate interest in the promoted game. More generally, a wide variety of mechanisms are envisioned by which game-specific credits are distributed and used to enable operation of gaming machines. Therefore, the present invention should not be limited to the examples given.

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